

**REMARKS:**

The Office Action dated July 6, 2004 has been received and carefully considered. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the remarks below.

This application was filed with Claims 1-34, Claims 1, 11, 19, and 27 being in independent form. Independent Claim 35 was added by a Preliminary Amendment. Claims 19, 27, and 35 are canceled by this amendment.

Claims 1-7 and 10-13 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of Browning et al. 6,706,966, either alone or with support from Purdom 5,750,925 and/or Wright 6,167,238. Browning '966 is the parent of the present application.

A Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) to overcome the rejection under obviousness-type double patenting is attached. The Terminal Disclaimer is also filed to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.137(d)(1)(ii) in association with the Petition for Revival.

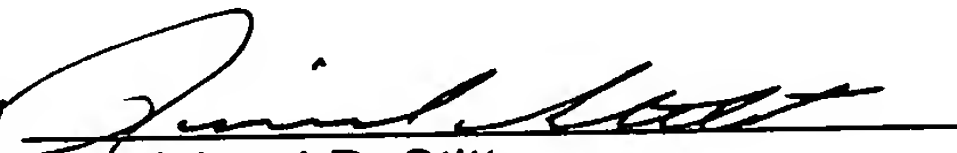
In view of the Terminal Disclaimer, applicants believe that Claims 1-7 and 10-13 should be in condition for allowance. Claims 8 and 9, depending from Claim 1, and 14-18, depending from Claim 11, are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 22-26 and 30-34 are considered allowable if rewritten to avoid dependence from a rejected claim. Claims 22 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 20 and 21 have been amended to depend from Claim 22, and Claims 28 and 29 have been amended to depend from Claim 30. Applicants believe that Claims 20-26 and 28-34 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-18, 20-26, and 28-34 are presented for reconsideration. Applicants contend that said claims call for hardened voyage data recorders which are not disclosed by or obvious from any of the references of record. Therefore, the allowance of Claims 1-18, 20-26, and 28-34 is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below in the event it is felt the prosecution of this application can be expedited thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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